

108TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. RES. 453

Condemning the terrorist attacks in Istanbul, Turkey, on November 15, 2003, expressing condolences to the families of the individuals murdered and expressing sympathies to the individuals injured in the terrorist attacks, and standing in solidarity with Turkey in the fight against terrorism.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOVEMBER 19, 2003

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida (for himself, Mr. WEXLER, Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, Mr. LANTOS, Mr. MENENDEZ, Ms. GRANGER, Mr. WHITFIELD, Mr. BERMAN, Mr. WEINER, Mr. DEUTSCH, Mr. ENGLISH, Mr. WAXMAN, Mr. REYES, Mr. MORAN of Virginia, Mr. WYNN, Ms. HARMAN, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. ENGEL, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. TOWNS, Ms. NORTON, Mr. ACKERMAN, Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, Mr. BURTON of Indiana, Ms. SOLIS, Mr. DICKS, Mr. NADLER, Mr. CROWLEY, Mr. RODRIGUEZ, and Mrs. TAUSCHER) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on International Relations

RESOLUTION

Condemning the terrorist attacks in Istanbul, Turkey, on November 15, 2003, expressing condolences to the families of the individuals murdered and expressing sympathies to the individuals injured in the terrorist attacks, and standing in solidarity with Turkey in the fight against terrorism.

Whereas in Istanbul, Turkey, on November 15, 2003, two explosions, set off two minutes apart, devastated Neve Shalom, the city's largest synagogue and symbolic center to

the city's 25,000 member Jewish community, and the Beth Israel synagogue about three miles away;

Whereas more than 20 people, both Jews and Muslims, were killed in the horrific bombing attacks on the two synagogues in Istanbul, as Sabbath morning services were under way in both houses of worship as well as a Bar Mitzvah in one of the synagogues;

Whereas more than 303 individuals were wounded in the attacks, both Jews and Muslims;

Whereas the acts of murder committed on November 15, 2003, in Istanbul, Turkey, were a cowardly and brutal manifestation of international terrorism;

Whereas the Government of Turkey immediately condemned the terrorist attacks in the strongest possible terms and has vowed to bring the perpetrators to justice at all costs;

Whereas the United States and Turkey abhor and denounce these hateful, repugnant, and loathsome acts of terrorism;

Whereas terrorism and anti-Semitic activity throughout the world continue to escalate, and the safety and security of Jewish people throughout the world is a matter of serious concern;

Whereas Turkey is a country well known for its tolerance, religious plurality, and good Jewish-Muslim relations;

Whereas the United States and Turkey are natural allies, based on their shared values and common interests in building a stable, peaceful, and prosperous world in the 21st century;

Whereas Turkey, a predominantly Muslim nation with a secular government, also has close relations with Israel and

is the only Muslim member of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO);

Whereas the acts of murder committed on November 15, 2003, in Istanbul, Turkey, show once again that terrorism respects neither boundaries nor borders;

Whereas global terrorism intends to harm every country that respects democracy, freedom, equality, and the rule of law; and

Whereas terrorism must be condemned in the strongest terms whenever and wherever it occurs: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

2 (1) condemns in the strongest possible terms
3 the terrorist attacks in Istanbul, Turkey, on Novem-
4 ber 15, 2003;

5 (2) expresses its deepest condolences to the
6 families of the individuals murdered in the terrorist
7 attacks and expresses sympathies to the individuals
8 injured in the attacks and conveys its hope for the
9 rapid and complete recovery of all such injured indi-
10 viduals; and

11 (3) urges the United States, Turkey, and all
12 other countries to stand united against terrorism
13 that targets the civilized world and to work together
14 to bring to justice the perpetrators of the terrorist
15 attacks in Istanbul, Turkey.

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